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THEODORE MYERS: Good afternoon. My name is Ted Myers. I'm the director of the FirstEnergy nuclear operating company, owner of the Perry, Davis Besse and Beaver Valley nuclear power stations. I'm also the chairman of the Davis Besse and Perry off site nuclear safety review board which is responsible for the overview of activities, all activities related to the operation of the facilities to the eventual care and health and safety of the public.

1 I appreciate this opportunity to comment in support of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the geological repository at Yucca Mountain. [It is essential that used nuclear fuel above Class C nuclear material and other waste identified that has been involved in the governmental programs over the years, be safely and efficiently stored.

Completion of the emergency Environmental Impact Statement is an essential element in the process of the continuing evaluation of the safety of the site, the building of the facility and the operation of the repository at Yucca Mountain. We expect the Department of Energy to fulfill it's legal obligation to the nuclear utilities and the public at large in this role.]

2 Some comments on the -- specifically on the repository. Much study has gone into the repository to date. Public input into the final Environmental Impact Statements is a necessary component for achieving consensus on Yucca Mountain's suitability as a repository. [The no action alternative identified in the Environmental Impact Statement is not acceptable. Millions of repairs and dollars have been put forth to study the facility. For over 40 years a scientific investigation has been done to reach this point in history for the development of a permanent repository.

While on site storage is safe, it is neither the best nor a permanent solution. Continued on site storage at facilities will cost at least twice as much as a single repository program identified in the Environmental Impact Statement.]

3 [Where the repository and impact study is looking forward to a new and unique facility, the transportation side of the review is looking at existing, already proven, rail and truck transportation systems that have, for decades, been utilized to transport used fuel.

The State of Ohio has, as many other states, and companies throughout the United States have utilized -- have been safely operating under this program of providing cooperation between utilities, shippers, Department of Transportation, nuclear energy, nuclear regulatory commission and local officials, state and regulatory and local responding organizations throughout the United States for years. Transportation of the used nuclear casks to Yucca Mountain by legal weight trucks or rail will be combined with the already existing comprehensive safety procedure and existing shipping canister designs built to withstand accident conditions for transportation activities, and will operate under cooperation between state and local officials and include training and responding organizations and pre-notification.

As identified previously, it is expected that the compliance of these activities will ensure the safety of Ohio residents during the transportation of used fuel through the state.]

4 In summary, we support the findings of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the
5 geological repository and we support the process of involving the public in the solicitation of
comments and moving toward the financial review.

We appreciate the time emphasis, specifically in Ohio, on the transportation concerns and
we expect the Department of Energy to evaluate all comments provided here today and respond
appropriately and incorporate any necessary changes into an Environmental Impact Statement as
it proceeds on schedule for further action. Thank you.